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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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For: Walter Etter

Title: NOISE COMPENSATION METHODS
AND SYSTEMS FOR INCREASING
THE CLARITY OF VOICE
COMMUNICATIONS

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
BOX NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2600

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir/Madam:

Kindly correct page 17, paragraph 51 as follows:

a!

FIGS. 5-7 depict embodiments of the compressor gain unit 300 and limiter gain unit 500 shown in FIG. 3. More to the point, FIG. 5 depicts curves which may be used by the compressor and limiter gain units 300,500 to operate in an "output-bounded" mode while FIGS. 6-7 depict curves used by units 300,500 to operate in an "input-output-bounded" mode. Like the input-bounded mode illustrated in FIG. 4, the output-bounded mode shown in FIG. 5 comprises a curve ("AA") associated with a linear range a_4 and compression range a_5 and a curve ("BB") associated with a linear $[b_3]$ b_4 , compressor $[b_4]$ b_5 , and limiter range $[b_5]$ b_6 . Unlike the input-bounded mode, the output-bounded mode does not comprise a

a!
cont

linear-limiter curve (curve C shown in FIG. 4). This means that companders operating in accordance with the curves in FIG. 5 are always adapted to operate in a compression range which results in a low amount of noise compensation in high-level noise conditions.

These corrections were made to conform the specification to FIG. 5. No new matter has been added. A clean copy of paragraph 51 is attached at the end of this Amendment.

No fee is believed to be due. However, in the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or to credit **Deposit Account No. 501735** as required to correct the error.

Should there be any questions, please call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



John E. Curtin, Reg. No. 37,602
Attorney for Applicant

Troutman Sanders LLP
1660 International Drive, Suite 600
McLean, Virginia 22102
(703) 734-4356

Date: December 21, 2001



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CLEAN COPY OF PARAGRAPH 51

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FIGS. 5-7 depict embodiments of the compressor gain unit 300 and limiter gain unit 500 shown in FIG. 3. More to the point, FIG. 5 depicts curves which may be used by the compressor and limiter gain units 300,500 to operate in an "output-bounded" mode while FIGS. 6-7 depict curves used by units 300,500 to operate in an "input-output-bounded" mode. Like the input-bounded mode illustrated in FIG. 4, the output-bounded mode shown in FIG. 5 comprises a curve ("AA") associated with a linear range a_4 and compression range a_5 and a curve ("BB") associated with a linear b_4 , compressor b_5 , and limiter range b_6 . Unlike the input-bounded mode, the output-bounded mode does not comprise a linear-limiter curve (curve C shown in FIG. 4). This means that companders operating in accordance with the curves in FIG. 5 are always adapted to operate in a compression range which results in a low amount of noise compensation in high-level noise conditions.